GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2765
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
LINKING OF RIVERS
LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH;PALANIYAPPA GOUNDER KUMARASAMY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study with regard to linking major rivers' in the country;

(b) if so, whether the steps taken/propose to be taken to form 'Peninsular Rivers Development Agency' (PRDA) for chalking out a programme for the linking of major rivers of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (c) The erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of WaterResources) and Central Water Commissionhad, in 1980, formulated a National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Developmentwhich envisages inter linkages between various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for optimum utilization of water resources. The Government of India has established National Water Development Agency (NWDA) as an Autonomous Society in July, 1982 to carry out the water balance and feasibility studies of National Perspective Plan. Peninsularcomponent of National Perspective Plan inter-alia envisages inter-linkages between Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Pennar and Cauvery. Implementation of Water transfer link proposal depends on availability of funds, how soon the detailed project report are prepared and consensus is reached among the concerned States.